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PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 6395-61708  
Application Number 10/009,660

### Remarks

This amendment is filed in response to the telephone conference between Applicants' representative Sheree Lynn Rybak, Ph.D. and Examiner Hines on March 1, 2004. It was agreed that the following amendments would put the application in condition for allowance: claims 1, 13, 22, 23, and 29 would be amended to include the phrase "against multiple bacterial serotypes" in the preamble, and claim 20 would be amended to correspond to the language used in claim 13.

In addition, claims 1, 13, 22, and 23 were amended to clarify that the label need not be a fluorescent label. That the label can be a fluorescent label is presented in new claims 30-33. Support for these amendments can be found on page 10, lines 27-34. Due to the amendment of claims 1, 13, 22, and 23 and the addition of claims 30-33 claims 2, 3, 14 and 15 were amended to change their dependency. Claim 10 was amended to correspond to the language used in amended claim 1.

None of these amendments were made to overcome prior art, and were merely made to clarify the claims.

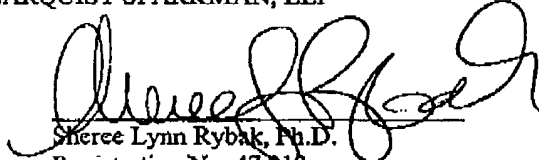
Applicants are aware that claims 2, 3, 14 and 15 depend from a later claim. However, it is Applicants understanding that the claims can be appropriately re-numbered at the time of issuance.

If any matters remain before a notice of allowance is issued, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By

  
Sheree Lynn Rybak, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 47,913

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600  
121 S.W. Salmon Street  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Telephone: (503) 226-7391  
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446